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Message Text

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51
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 DODE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 AID-20 L-03

/081 W
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R 021946Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4819
INFO USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, AR
SUBJ: FORMAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (PARITARIAS) SUSPENDED
UNTIL 1975

EXECUTIVE BRANCH DEC 28 DECREED EXTENSION OF EXISTING WAGE CONTRACTS TO RUN FOR AS LONG AS SOCIAL PACT REMAINS IN EFFECT (UNTIL MID 1975). RESULT OF DECREE IS TO SUSPEND OPERATION OF FORMAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (PARITARIAS). MANY OF THE CURRENT WAGE CONTRACTS WHICH WERE NEGOTIATED IN DEC 1972 AND JAN 1973 WOULD HAVE BEEN UP FOR RENEGOTIATION IN MAR-JUN 1974 TIME FRAME. DECREE STIPULATES, HOWEVER, THAT IN KEEPING WITH SOCIAL PACT, WAGE ADJUSTMENTS MAY BE GRANTED "TO PRESERVE EXISTING EQUILIBRIUM, AND TO PROMOTE A MORE JUST AND EQUITABLE DIVISION OF WEALTH".

COMMENT: THIS DECREE EVIDENTLY STRENGTHENS HAND OF CENTRAL DECISION MAKERS AT EXPENSE OF TRADE UNION INDEPENDENCE, FOR WHATEVER INDUSTRY WIDE WAGE INCREMENTS AND OTHER BENEFITS ARE HENCEFORTH OBTAINED WILL BE AT SUFFERANCE OF POWERS THAT BE AND NOT AS RESULT HARD BARGAINING AT NEGOTIATING TABLE. FURTHERMORE GIVEN PERONIST CONCEPT OF VERTICALITY, AND
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RELATIVELY NEW TRADE UNION LAW, LARGE SCALE STRIKES ARE LESS

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LIKELY TO BE EMPLOYED BY LABOR AS COERCIVE WEAPON THAN IN
1967-1972 PERIOD UNDER MILITARY GOVERNMENT WHEN, FOR VARIETY
OF REASONS, THERE WERE NO PARITARIAS. HOWEVER, STRIKES
ON PLANT OR FACTORY LEVEL WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE AND MAY INCREASE
AND COULD AFFECT SOCIAL PACT ITSELF. IF WAGE ADJUSTMENTS GRANTED
UNDER THIS NEW ARRANGEMENT DOD NOT AMPLY COVER COL INCREASES,
INCLUDING THOSE SOME LABOR LEADERS CLAIM ARE NOT REFLECTED
IN COL INDEX, DISCONTENT AT WORKER LEVEL IS BOUND TO GROW.

KREBS

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Message Attributes

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